For it was a perilous beast above all,
And eke had he cond the shepherds call.
And oft in the night came to the shepecote,
And called Lowder, with a hollow throte,
As if it the old man selfe had bene.
The dog his maisters voice did it weene,
Yet halfe in doubt, he opened the doore,
And ranne out, as he was wont of yore.
No sooner was out, but swifter then thought,
Fast by the hyde the Wolfe lowder caught:
And had not Roffy renne to the steuen,
Lowder had be slaine thilke same euen.

Hobbinoll.

God shield man, he should so ill haue thriue,
All for he did his deuoyr belriue.
If like bene Wolues, as thou hast told,
How mought we Diggon, hem be-hold.

Diggon.

How, but with heede and watchfulnesse,
Forstallen hem of their wilinesse?
For thy with shepheard sittes not playe,
Or sleepe, as some doen, all the long day:
But euer liggen in watch and ward,
From soddein force theyr flocks for to gard.

Hobbinoll.

Ah Diggon, thilke same rule were too straight,
All the cold season to wach and waite.
We bene of fleshe, men as other bee.
Why should we be bound to such miseree?
What euer thing lacketh chaungeable rest,
Mought needes decay, when it is at best.

Diggon.

Ah but Hobbinol, all this long tale,
Nought easeth the care, that doth me forhaile.
What shall I doe? what way shall I wend,
My piteous plight and losse to amend?
Ah good Hobbinol, mought I thee praye,
Of ayde or counsell in my decaye.

Hobbinoll.

Now by my soule Diggon, I lam
The hapleſſe miſchief, that has the
Nethleſſe thou ſeeſt my lowly ſa
That froward fortune doth euer a
But were Hobbinoll, as God mou
Diggon ſhould ſoone find fauour a
But if to my cotage thou wilt reſo
So as I can: I wil thee comfort:
There mayſt thou ligge in a vetch
Till fayrer Fortune ſhewe forth hi

Diggon.

Ah Hobbinol, God mought it thee
Diggon on ſewe ſuch freends did

Diggons Emble

Fnopem me copi

GLOSSE

The Dialecte and phraſe of ſpeache in this Dialo
from the comen. The cauſe whereof is ſup
herein meant, vvho being very freend to
forraine countryes, and there ſeene many
to Hobbinoll.

Bidde her) Bidde good morrow. For to bidde, is to
prayers, and ſo they ſay, To bidde his bead
VVightly) quicklye, or ſodenlye. Chaffred) ſol
ſpeache, but much vſurped of Lidgate,
Leeſe) deare. Ethe) eaſie. Theſe thre moones) nin
VVae) vvoe Northernly. Eeked) encreaſed. Caru
Cragge) neck. State) ſtoutely Stanck) vvearie
And novve) He applieth it to the tyme of the yea
they call the fall of the leafe: at vvhich t
moſt ſvvaye.
A mocke) Imitating Horace, Debes ludibrium ve
Vncouthe) vnknowen. Hereby there) here and
out of Mantuane. Empriſe) for enterp
Trode) path. Marrie that) that is, their ſoules, v
tiſes they damme to hell.